
Russell P. Spindler



Executive Director Office of Counsel Naval Air Systems Command

Russell P. Spindler is the Executive Director of the Office of Counsel for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). With headquarters in Patuxent River, Md. and eight major sites nationwide, NAVAIR employs over 25,000 military and civilian personnel who in Fiscal Year 2004 managed over \$23 billion supporting 145 major aircraft and weapon systems programs.

NAVAIR is responsible for acquisition management, test and evaluation, repair/modification and in-service engineering and logistics support for naval aircraft and related weapons systems. As Executive Director, Mr. Spindler assists NAVAIR's Counsel in supervising a legal staff of over 95 people responsible for all legal services throughout the NAVAIR team, and provides legal advice to his clients on a wide range of subject areas, including acquisition, strategic sourcing, personnel, environmental, fiscal, ethics, labor relations, and standards of conduct. He has served in this position since January, 2006.

Mr. Spindler joined the Navy Office of the General Counsel (OGC) in 1984. His first OGC position was with the Navy Resale and Service Support Office on Staten Island, New York, a field activity of the Naval Supply Systems Command. In 1987, he transferred to the Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, Calif., then a field activity of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. When the Command was realigned with Pacific Missile Test Center, Point Mugu and joined the Naval Air Systems Command, he was appointed as the Head of the General Law Division of the new Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division.

In October of 1998, he moved to the Naval Air Systems Command Office of Counsel at Patuxent River, Md., where he was appointed as the Senior Associate Counsel for Field Management, supervising attorneys at the seven field activities. In addition, he had responsibility for legal support to the NAVAIR Logistics Competency and Industrial Competency. In August, 2001, he assumed the position of the Senior Associate Counsel providing legal support to the Program Executive Officer, Tactical Aircraft Programs (PEO(T)). In 2004, the NAVAIR Office of Counsel reorganized and legal support for the Program Executive Officer for Air ASW, Assault and Special Mission Programs (PEO(A)) was added to his Division which became the Aircraft Acquisition Department. This addition resulted in his

Department being responsible for legal support to most Navy fixed and rotary wing aircraft programs. In December of 2005, Mr. Spindler was selected to be a member of the Senior Executive Service and appointed to his current position.

Mr. Spindler is a graduate of Union College in Schenectady, New York with a bachelor's of arts degree in political science. He subsequently obtained his juris doctor degree and a master's of arts in law and international affairs as part of the Joint Degree Program at American University in Washington, D.C. Mr. Spindler is a member of the New York State bar. He is also a recipient of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.